

CLAIMS

I/We claim:

1. A cable holding device for terminating a cable having a plurality of wires with a connector, the cable holding  
5 device comprising:

a housing having a plurality of slots arranged for positioning the plurality of wires in a fixed spaced relationship relative to each other and an inner surface configured for guiding a complementary surface of the  
10 connector into electrical engagement with the plurality of wires.

2. The device according to claim 1, wherein the slots are formed on inner and outer walls of the housing, each of  
15 the slots on the outer walls corresponds with one of the slots on the inner walls to form a wire receiving path therebetween.

3. The device according to claim 2, further comprising a  
20 wire support structure arranged between the inner and outer walls of the housing and substantially aligned with the wire receiving path.

4. The device according to claim 3, wherein the wire support structure includes a u-shaped slot arranged for receiving a terminal of the connector.

5 5. The device according to claim 2, further comprising a cutting device arranged proximate the outer walls for severing free ends of the plurality of wires.

6. The device according to claim 5, wherein the cutting  
10 device is arranged parallel to the outer walls.

7. The device according to claim 5, wherein the cutting device includes at least one blade configured to sever the plurality of wires substantially simultaneously.

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8. The device according to claim 5, wherein the cutting device is movable from a non-cutting position to a cutting position by an end of the cutting device that projects from the housing.

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9. The device according to claim 5, wherein the cutting device is mounted in the housing by a pin that is

received in an elongated aperture formed in the cutting device.

10. The device according to claim 2, wherein the housing  
5 includes first and second housing parts configured to receive the cable therebetween to clamp the cable in the housing.

11. The device according to claim 10, wherein first and  
10 second housing parts are connected via a hinge so that the first and second housing parts pivot between an open position and a closed position.

12. The device according to claim 2, further comprising an  
15 indicator panel arranged adjacent to the wire receiving path to designate which one of the plurality of wires is to be received in the wire receiving path.

13. A cable terminating apparatus for terminating a cable  
20 having a plurality of wires with a connector, the cable terminating apparatus comprising:

a housing having a plurality of slots arranged for positioning the plurality of wires in a fixed spaced relationship relative to each other;

5 a connector having a plurality of terminals corresponding to the plurality of wires; and

a squeezing tool having a recess configured for receiving the housing and the connector, the squeezing tool having a moveable plate for urging the connector and the housing against a support wall and into engagement  
10 with each other to electrically connect the plurality of terminals with the plurality of wires.

14. The apparatus according to claim 13, further comprising a cutting device arranged in the housing, the cutting  
15 device having an end portion that projects from the housing and engages the support wall to cause the cutting device to sever free ends of the plurality of wires.

15. The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the slots  
20 are formed on inner and outer walls of the housing, each of the slots on the outer walls corresponds with one of the slots on the inner walls to form a wire receiving path therebetween.

16. The apparatus according to claim 15, further comprising a wire support structure arranged between the inner and  
5 outer walls of the housing and substantially aligned with the wire receiving path.
17. The apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the wire support structure includes a u-shaped slot arranged for  
10 receiving a terminal of the connector.
18. The apparatus according to claim 15, wherein the cutting device is arranged proximate the outer walls.
- 15 19. The apparatus according to claim 18, wherein the cutting device is arranged parallel to the outer walls.
20. The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the cutting device includes at least one blade configured to sever  
20 the plurality of wires substantially simultaneously.
21. The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the cutting device is mounted in the housing by a pin that is

received in an elongated aperture formed in the cutting device.

22. The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the support  
5 wall includes a rebated portion configured for receiving the end portion of the cutting device so that the cutting device does not sever the free ends during engagement of the connector with the cable holding device.

10 23. A method of terminating a cable having a plurality of wires with a connector having a plurality of terminals, comprising:

positioning the plurality of wires in a housing in a fixed spaced relationship relative to each other;

15 aligning the connector with the housing by engaging an inner surface of the housing with a complementary surface of the connector;

pressing the connector and the housing against a support wall to urge the connector further into  
20 engagement with the housing to electrically connect the plurality of terminals with the plurality of wires; and  
severing free ends of the plurality of wires simultaneously with a cutting device.

24. The method according to claim 23, further comprising placing the connector and the housing in a squeezing tool.

5 25. The method according to claim 23, further comprising pressing an end portion of the cutting device that projects from the housing toward the housing so that a blade of the cutting device engages the plurality of wires.

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26. The method according to claim 25, further comprising positioning the end portion of the cutting device adjacent to the support wall.